

REMARKS

Claims 25-32, 34-37 and 39-52 are pending in this application. Claims 25, 27-32, 34-37, 39-50, 52, and 53 stand rejected and claims 26 and 51 are withdrawn from consideration. In light of the remarks set forth below, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending claims is in immediate condition for allowance.

Claims 25, 27-31, 34-37, 45-50, 52, and 53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,500,715 ("Matsuzaki").

Independent claim 29 is directed to a circuit arrangement comprising an edge triggered flip-flop. Matsuzaki is silent as to an edge triggered flip-flop. The Office Action pointed to level holding circuit LH1 for the disclosure of an edge tree flip-flop. However, the disclosure of Matsuzaki is silent as to an edge trigger flip-flop or LH1 being an edge triggered flip-flop. Further, the claims explicitly recite a pulse generator circuit. The Office Action equates the pulse generator circuit with the MOS inverter circuit of Matsuzaki. The MOS inverter in Matsuzaki are used to decrease the magnitude and flow of gate to source or gate to drain currents thereby reducing power dissipation. However, this does not disclose pulse generator in the scope of the pending claims.

Matsuzaki fails to disclose a circuit arrangement including an edge-triggered flip-flop. LH1 is a level holder circuit (see col. 18, lines 16/17), in other words, a latch, but not a flip-flop (and in particular not an edge-triggered flip-flop), as would be understood by one of ordinary skill in the art from inspection of Fig. 8 and the corresponding description in Matsuzaki.

Matsuzaki also fails to disclose a pulse generator circuit. NA1 is a clocked NAND gate that, when activated (e.g. timing signal 0 = 1), provides a steady output signal (namely "Ai NAND Aj") to inverter IV1 in Fig. 45, but no pulse, as would also be understood by one of ordinary skill in the art. Therefore, NA1 is not a pulse generator circuit.

For the reasons discussed above, the subject-matter of claims 29, 51, 52, and 53 is novel over Matsuzaki. As Matsuzaki does not suggest a circuit arrangement including an edge-triggered flip-flop and a pulse generator circuit as described above, the subject-matter of claims 29, 51, 52, and 53 is also believed to be non-obvious over Matsuzaki. The secondary reference Sani (U.S. patent No. 6,794 914) does not cure the deficiencies of Matsuzaki. In particular, Sani neither discloses nor suggests an edge-triggered flip-flop or a pulse generator circuit as described above. Thus, the subject-matter of claims 29, 51, 52, and 53 is novel over Sani and is further believed to be non-obvious over the combination of the two references. The other claims recite further limitations and are ultimately dependent on claim 29. Therefore, the subject-matter of these claims is believed to be novel and non-obvious for at least the reasons given above. In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of the presently pending claims are solicited.

Because Matsuzaki fails to disclose an edge triggered flip-flop and the claimed pulse to generator tower, we submit that Matsuzaki does not anticipate dependent claims and therefore dependent claims should be allowed.

Applicants have responded to all of the rejections and objections recited in the Office Action. Reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance for all of the pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If the Examiner believes an interview would be of assistance, the Examiner is welcome to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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